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DCI/IC-77-0221

9 April 1973

The Honorable Albert C. Hall
Assistant Secretary of Defense
(Intelligence)
Room 3E 282
The Pentagon

Dear Al:

This responds to your letter of February 20, 1973 concerning COINS and forwarding a copy of a study report undertaken in behalf of IRAC, and also to your letter of March 29, 1973. The report appears to be comprehensive, workmanlike and objective. I understand there was some dissent on the subject of interactive capabilities for the system.

Subject to certain assurances, the DCI is prepared to accept the recommendations of the report. In particular,

1. The ASD(I) is requested to take the responsibility as executive agent for the COINS experiment under the auspices of the DCI.
2. The COINS Project Office, [redacted] is placed under the executive agent. Staffing of the Office may be community-wide subject to agreement between our Offices.
3. The COINS project and funding be continued with the expectation that:
 - a. The present system be upgraded to the TK level with a target date of May 1, 1973. I am sending a separate letter to Agency Directors informing them of this action.
 - b. COINS be purged of unused files and these files replaced by the files of interest to the community, as identified in the study.

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c. COINS management reporting be strengthened to allow evaluation of usage, timeliness, and effectiveness.

d. The COINS PMD submit a detailed plan for an upgraded system which will address the weaknesses previously identified in a cost-effective manner.

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Your proposed terms of reference for a working group are satisfactory. [] will be my representative at the April 10 meeting.

If there are any questions on this I would be happy to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

/s/

Lew Allen, Jr.
Major General, USAF

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Retyped to add para/drm/9 Apr 73

Distribution:

Original - Addressee

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